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**Before the  
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20554**

**RECEIVED**

**JUL 25 1994**

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

In the Matter of	)	
	)	
Equal Access and Interconnection	)	CC Docket No. 94-54
Obligations Pertaining to	)	RM-8012
Commercial Mobile Radio Services	)	

**OPPOSITION TO MOTION TO DELAY THE COMMENT DATE**

U S WEST must oppose the July 20 motion of GTE to defer the comment date in this proceeding by 30 days (from August 30 to September 29, 1994). In U S WEST's judgment, the interests of the industry as a whole must take precedence over the interests of one or more individual members of the industry and, in this particular instance, the interests of the industry are served by early resolution of the issues raised.<sup>1</sup>

GTE seeks to delay the comment date so it "may gather the appropriate supporting data and prepare comments that will be accurate, informative, and meaningful to the Commission's evaluation." Motion at 4. Such documentation is important, GTE states, because this proceeding raises "diverse and complex" issues which "will have enormous impact on the cellular industry." Id. at 2 and 4.

This proceeding is, of course, important and does indeed raise diverse and complex issues. But these are characteristics that are true of most of the proceedings in which the Commission is now engaged.

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<sup>1</sup>Of course, it "is the policy of the Commission that extensions of time shall not be routinely granted." 47 C.F.R. § 1.46.

There are two reasons which counsel against deferring the comment date. First, the Commission has already been generous in establishing a comment period for this proceeding — affording more time than is ordinarily afforded in most dockets. The current comment date of August 30 is over 11 weeks after the News Release was published (June 9) and over eight weeks after the text of the full Notice was published (July 1). This would appear to be ample time to prepare comments and assemble any supporting documentation — especially when one considers that (a) MCI's rulemaking petition has been pending for over two years (June 2, 1992) and (b) reply comments are not due for an additional four weeks (September 29).

More fundamentally, the Commission has announced that the broadband PCS auctions will likely begin later this year. The submission of meaningful bids requires that bidders have access to as much information as possible about the PCS licenses being auctioned. One set of critical information are the regulatory rules under which PCS licensees must operate — which include such basic issues as their respective interconnection obligations (*e.g.*, equal access).

The Commission has acted expeditiously in its PCS/CMRS-related proceedings (and, given the complexity of the subject, deserves the industry's special commendation). However, U S WEST fears that a four-week delay in the comment date (after 11+ weeks have already been afforded) could jeopardize the Commission's ability to decide the equal access/interconnection issues before the broadband PCS auctions commence.

For these reasons, U S WEST must oppose any deferral of the August 30, 1994 comment date. If any member of the industry is unable to submit all

its facts by that date, it can submit additional facts in its reply comments (September 29) or thereafter in ex partes.

Respectfully submitted,

U S WEST, Inc.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeffrey S. Bork", written over a horizontal line.

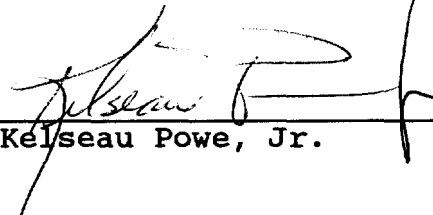
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303-672-2700

Laurie Bennett, Of Counsel

July 25, 1994

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I, Kelseau Powe, Jr., do hereby certify that on this 25th day of July, 1994, I have caused a copy of the foregoing **OPPOSITION TO MOTION TO DELAY THE COMMENT DATE** to be served via first-class United States Mail, postage prepaid, upon the persons listed on the attached service list.

  
Kelseau Powe, Jr.

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**\*Via Hand-Delivery**

(CC94-54.JB/lh)

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